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Starting and Implementing a Flight Safety Programme

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Why have a flight safety programme?

- The operation of any aircraft presents real and potential hazards . . .
- ... which are induced by technical, operational and human failures.
- An effective flight safety programme will address and control the hazards.



Does this mean 'Safety First'?

- Absolute Safety = Total Expense = No Business
- Acceptable Safety = Profits = Good Business



Importance of Implementing a Flight Safety Programme

Commercial airline transport operations are based almost entirely on public confidence, therefore any accident has significant impact – it affects the whole industry.



Importance of Implementing a Flight Safety Programme

The benefits of implementing a controlled flight safety programme cannot be overstressed.

Public confidence will be maintained in the knowledge that we are doing all that is possible to reduce the number of accidents and incidents.



Legislation and Regulation

- JAR-OPS (1.037) states that an operator shall establish an accident prevention and flight safety programme:
- "... including programmes to achieve and maintain risk awareness by all persons involved in operations..."
- "... and the evaluation of relevant information relating to accidents and incidents and the promulgation of related information."



Legislation and Regulation

More references:

- ICAO Doc 9422 (Accident Prevention Manual), and
- ICAO Doc 9376 (Preparation of an Operations Manual).



So how are the hazards controlled?

- By the careful recording and monitoring of safety-related incidents for adverse trends
- ... in order to reduce the possibility of any recurrence which could lead to an aircraft accident.

- A number of operators were once asked whether they had a flight safety programme in place.
- Most replied . . .





- This negative response demonstrated a need for some guidelines.
- Although all the information was available somewhere, what was needed was a single, easily-referenced document.



So in 1998 the Airbus Industrie *Flight Safety Manager's Handbook* was produced.

This practical 'how-to' document was distributed to all operators of Airbus equipment.



- The GAIN *Operator's Flight Safety Handbook* is an extension of the Airbus publication.
- It is targeted at all commercial air carriers, regardless of fleet size or the type of aircraft operated.



- The Airbus and GAIN publications are complimentary.
- Both are designed to enable an operator to devise and implement an effective flight safety programme.



Contents of the GAIN OFSH

- There are eight sections giving essential information.
- Eight appendices containing supplementary information,
- and an alphabetical index



<u>INTRODUCTION</u>

Objective of GAIN programme – background to development of Operator's Flight Safety Handbook – purpose and scope



Organisation and Administration

Executive commitment – the safety management system – organisation – policies and procedures – Flight Safety Officer job description – responsibilities – safety training and awareness



Safety Programme Activities

Company Flight Safety Committee – hazard reporting – immunity-based reporting – Quality system – safety trends analysis – FOQA collection and analysis – dissemination of flight safety information



Human Factors

Meaning and aim of human factors in aviation – factors affecting aircrew performance – Crew Resource Management (CRM)



Accident/Incident Investigation and Reports

Definitions – policy – objectives – notification of incidents and accidents – Company accident and incident teams – responsibilities – investigation procedure – reports – equipment required



Emergency Response and Crisis Management

Responsibilities – example Company emergency response organisation – response guidelines – Corporate accident response team – small organisation emergency response



Risk Management

Definitions – true cost of risk – risk profiles – decision making – cost/benefit considerations



Organisational Extensions

Safety practices of contractors, sub contractors and other third parties – safety practices of partners



GAIN OFSH Contents Appendix 'A'

Example Forms and Reports

Air safety incident reporting forms – layout of Flight Crew Notices – confidential reporting scheme forms and questionnaire – dangerous goods Notification to Captain form



GAIN OFSH Contents Appendix 'B'

Reference Material and Sources of Information

Publications – industry organisations – training organisations – manufacturer information – suppliers of flight/performance monitoring systems – Internet web sites



GAIN OFSH Contents Appendix 'C'

Analytical Methods and Tools

An inventory of analytical methods and tools which are potentially useful to airline Flight Safety Officers (flight data monitoring and FOQA analysis, statistics, trend analysis, human factors analysis, etc.)



GAIN OFSH Contents Appendix 'D'

Safety Surveys and Audits

Safety surveys – individual safety survey examples – safety audits - sample independent safety programme audit checklist



GAIN OFSH Contents Appendix 'E'

Risk Management

Hazard identification and analysis – hazard elimination and avoidance - the risk management process



GAIN OFSH Contents Appendix 'F'

Accident Response Team Guidelines

Example of an accident response checklist which illustrates the basic requirements for response



GAIN OFSH Contents - Appendix 'G'

Handbook Source Material

A list of references used during the compilation of the handbook



GAIN OFSH Contents Appendix 'H'

Handbook Feedback Form

Invites comments and suggestions for improving upon the content of the handbook



OFSH Summary

The handbook is proactive:

 It shows how the real and potential hazards can be controlled.

It is necessarily reactive:

Because accidents and incidents will continue to occur.

Thank you for your kind attention!

